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NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATUTE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Czechoslovak government decree of 7 July 1949 outlines the organization of local government in Czechoslovakia.

The Okres National Committees, considered as a basic unit, are composed of 24 members in okreses with a population up to 35,000, and of 30 members where the nopulation numbers more than 35,000. The Okres National Committees will:

- 1. Approve the economic plan of the okres within the framework of the state economic plan.
- 2. Prepare executive tax provisions for the okres and establish the amount of tax assessments, payments, and dues.
 - 3. Elect an Okres Council.
- 4. Create and liquidate communal enterprises, appoint and dismiss executive officers.
 - 5. Take care of econonic matters provided for by the laws.
 - 6. Take care of matters pertaining to citizenship.

The Okres National Committees will meet at least once every 3 months.

The Okres Councils will serve as executive organs of the Okres National Committees and will be composed of a chairman (deputy chief of the okres) and of 8-11 department heads. The Okres Councils will:

- 1. Prepare material and notions for the Okres National Committees.
- 2. Carry out resolutions adapted by the Okres National Committees.
- 3. Approve expenses exceeding 50,000 Crowns.

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- 4. Issue directives and instructions on matters concerning communal economy.
 - 5. Appoint and dismiss tax collectors.

Department heads are in charge of activities connected with the actual functioning of the local government.

Each okres will have the following departments: Internal Affairs, Planning, Security, Education, Labor and Social Security, Health, Finance, Economic, Agriculture, Internal Trade, and Technical.

The chairman of the Okres Council, by virtue of his office, will be in charge of the Internal Affairs Department.

The Okres National Committees will be subordinated to the Kraj National Committees. The Okres Councils will be subordinated directly either to the respective ministries or to the department heads of the Kraj National Committees.

In strict connection with the above-outlined law is the law of 11 May 1949 regarding the administration of krajs. Each Kraj National Committee will have 48 members, according to the law, with the exception of the High Tatra Mountains, whose Kraj National Committee will be composed of only 24 members, and of the Brno and Bratislava krajs, whose Kraj National Committees will have 60 members each.

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